

## A View from the Principal's Office 8/28/18

Welcome back to school. For those families new to our school I want to introduce myself and let you know that I periodically write posts that I call *A View from the Principal's Office*. My name is Nelson Fogg, I have worked at Hartford for the past thirty years as a teacher, coach, adviser, assistant principal, and now principal. Forty-three years ago my journey as a Hurricane began when I entered HHS with the class of 1979. It is an honor to serve our community and learners in the capacity of the school's principal. *Views from the Principal's Office* are designed to provide our community with a sense of all that is going on at Hartford High School. This year I am also trying to include Twitter in my communication - I will be posting through @hcaneleads.

As the school year approaches I can say unequivocally that the literal view from the principal's office has changed significantly. Over the course of the summer our parking lots, walkways, and roads received some **MUCH** needed attention. While I did not think it was possible, I believe the wait has been worth it. In addition to "replacing" the pavement, the campus received a new student parking lot, some new signage, an improved traffic pattern, and fencing that supports the definition of our spaces. Prior to the summer work it would not have been an exaggeration to describe our parking lot as a loose collection of paved areas held together by a myriad of potholes. There was little organization and, as anyone who had driven on the campus will attest, the roadways ate vehicle suspensions. Today, looking out the window, I am greeted by park-like green spaces, an organized traffic flow, and lighted parking areas; in other words we now have a campus. I realize that for many the new pattern will take some getting used to however, for so many reasons, this project has improved our campus and is something we can all be proud of.

In addition to the work that was done outside our building there were internal projects as well. The Regional Resource Center - a regional collaborative that shares our building - saw the completion of a three year project to modernize their space. This summer's work was the installation of a magnificent kitchen area that will support student learning for years to come. Our high school's work was the modification of our lobby. Students and visitors to Hartford High School will now be greeted when they enter the building. We also will be adding doors that provide enhanced security for everyone in our school. This project is due to be completed shortly and improves both the aesthetic and function of the lobby area.

As you can tell I am very proud of the new look that our school has as we come back for the 2018 - 2019 school year; I am confident that our exterior is now aligned with the work that we have been engaging in within the building and I feel that the upgrades to the lobby begin to address important issues of school safety.

As noted above I will be sending out these posts periodically this year - I look forward to the partnerships that will form between students, families, and our high school staff. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at [fogg@hartfordschools.net](mailto:fogg@hartfordschools.net) and (802) 295-8610 x\*2190. For the past thirty years I have looked forward to walking into Hartford High School to work with young people and their families - I feel privileged to be one of the leaders of our learning community and I recognize that we are all better when we are working together.

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